

Monthly Progress
August 2018 Progress Report
Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge
AUS OU RI/FS

Actions Taken to Comply with Consent Order

During the month of August 2018, activities of significance included:

1. Preparation of AOC mandated reports.
2. FWS notified Shannon & Wilson (S&W) and the other Agencies that it was planning an open house later in the fall at the Refuge to provide a public update regarding the status of the AUS OU, on August 16th. FWS indicated the open house, organized like the June 2017 open house held for the Area 7 pesticide cleanup, is intended to involve the public with the AUS OU prior to the formal public meeting on FWS' proposed cleanup plan. The future meeting will be held after the AUS OU FS Report is approved, likely in late 2019.

FWS subsequently notified the parties that the open house had been scheduled for the late afternoon for October 23, 2017, on August 30th.

3. S&W continued preparation of the draft FS Report. At the time of this progress report about 30 percent of the document has been completed.

Results of Sampling and Tests

The initial NA Study sampling event was performed the week of November 6, 2017, followed by the second event the week of January 1, 2018. The TCE cometabolism/ ¹⁴C samples were collected on March 21st, completing the field requirements for the NA Study. Preliminary results for a portion of the November event were received on January 17th, along with a second preliminary data set from the January event on March 8th. Preliminary gene results were received on April 23rd, preliminary microorganism results were received on May 16th, and preliminary TCE cometabolism results were received on August 16th. However, validated data for all results remain outstanding.

Work Planned for the Next Two Months

During the months of September and October 2018 planned activities include:

1. S&W will participate in the AUS OU open house scheduled for October 23, 2017 at the Refuge.
2. S&W will continue preparation of the draft FS report.

Problems Encountered

None.